

§ 920.21

districts. The committee may, with the approval of the Secretary, provide such other allocation of membership as may be necessary to assure equitable representation.

[75 FR 37291, June 29, 2010]

§ 920.21 Term of office.

The term of office of each member and alternate member of the committee shall be for two years from the date of their selection and until their successors are selected. The term of office of the three additional grower members and their alternates selected from the three districts shipping the highest volumes of kiwifruit in the prior fiscal period shall be for two years. The terms of office shall begin on August 1 and end on the last day of July, or such other dates as the committee may recommend and the Secretary approve. Members may serve up to three consecutive 2-year terms not to exceed 6 consecutive years as members. Alternate members may serve up to three consecutive 2-year terms not to exceed 6 consecutive years as alternate members.

[57 FR 1219, Jan. 12, 1992]

§ 920.22 Nomination.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the committee shall hold, or cause to be held, not later than June 1 of each year in which nominations are made, or such other date as may be specified by the Secretary, a meeting or meetings of growers in each district for the purpose of designating nominees to serve as grower members and alternates on the committee. Any such meetings shall be supervised by the committee, which shall prescribe such procedures as shall be reasonable and fair to all persons concerned.

(b) Nominations in any or all districts may be conducted by mail in a manner recommended by the committee and approved by the Secretary.

(c) Only growers may participate in the nomination of grower members and their alternates. Each grower shall be entitled to cast only one vote for each position to be filled in the district in which such grower produces kiwifruit. No grower shall participate in the elec-

7 CFR Ch. IX (1–1–11 Edition)

tion of nominees in more than one district in any one fiscal year.

(d) A particular grower shall be eligible for membership as member or alternate member to fill only one position on the committee.

(e) The public member and alternate shall be nominated by the grower members of the committee.

[57 FR 1219, Jan. 12, 1992, as amended at 75 FR 37291, June 29, 2010]

§ 920.23 Selection.

From the nominations made pursuant to § 920.22, or from other qualified persons, the Secretary shall select the 12 members of the committee and an alternate for each such member, with the exception of the public member and alternate member, who shall be selected by the Secretary in his discretion.

§ 920.24 Failure to nominate.

If nominations are not made within the time and in the manner prescribed in § 920.22, the Secretary may, without regard to nominations, select the members and alternate members of the committee on the basis of the representation provided for in § 920.20.

§ 920.25 Acceptance.

Each person to be selected by the Secretary as a member or as an alternate member of the committee shall, prior to such selection, qualify by advising the Secretary that he/she agrees to serve in the position for which nominated for selection.

§ 920.26 Vacancies.

To fill any vacancy occasioned by the failure of any person selected as a member or as an alternate member of the committee to qualify, or in the event of the death, removal, resignation, or disqualification of any member or alternate member of the committee, a successor for the unexpired term of such member or alternate member of the committee shall be nominated and selected, or, in the case of the public member and alternate, selected by the Secretary in his discretion, in the manner specified in §§ 920.22 and 920.23. If the names of nominees to fill any such vacancy are not made available to the

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 920.32

Secretary within a reasonable time after such vacancy occurs, the Secretary may fill such vacancy without regard to nominations, which selection shall be made on the basis of representation provided for in § 920.20.

§ 920.27 Alternate members.

An alternate member of the committee, during the absence of either the member for whom that individual is an alternate, or, in the case of districts with two grower positions on the committee, the other member and that member's alternate, shall act in the place and stead of such member and perform such other duties as assigned. In the event of the death, removal, resignation, or disqualification of a member, the alternate of such member shall act for him or her until a successor for such member is selected and has qualified.

§ 920.30 Powers.

The committee shall have the following powers:

- (a) To administer the provisions of this part in accordance with its terms;
- (b) To receive, investigate, and report to the Secretary complaints of violations of the provisions of this part;
- (c) To make and adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the terms and provisions of this part; and
- (d) To recommend to the Secretary amendments to this part.

§ 920.31 Duties.

The committee shall have, among others, the following duties:

- (a) To select a chairperson and such other officers as may be necessary, and to define the duties of such officers;
- (b) To appoint such employees, agents and representatives as it may deem necessary, and to determine compensation and to define the duties of each;
- (c) To submit to the Secretary as soon as practicable after the beginning of each fiscal period a budget for such fiscal period, including a report in explanation of the items appearing therein and a recommendation as to the rate of assessment for such period;
- (d) To keep minutes, books and records which will reflect all of the acts and transactions of the committee

and which shall be subject to examination by the Secretary;

(e) To prepare periodic statements of the financial operations of the committee and to make copies of each such statement available to growers and handlers for examination at the office of the committee;

(f) To cause its books to be audited by a public accountant at least once each fiscal year and at such times as the Secretary may request;

(g) To act as intermediary between the Secretary and any grower or handler;

(h) To investigate and assemble data on the growing, handling and marketing conditions with respect to kiwifruit;

(i) To submit to the Secretary the same notice of meetings of the committee as is given to its members;

(j) To submit to the Secretary such available information as may be requested;

(k) To investigate compliance with the provisions of this part;

(l) With the approval of the Secretary, to redefine the districts into which the production area is divided and to reapportion the representation of any district on the committee: *Provided*, That any such changes shall reflect, insofar as practicable, shifts in kiwifruit production within the districts and the production area.

§ 920.32 Procedure.

(a) Eight members of the committee, or alternates acting for members, shall constitute a quorum and any action of the committee shall require the concurring vote of the majority of those present: *Provided*, That actions of the committee with respect to expenses and assessments, or recommendations for regulations pursuant to §§ 920.50 through 920.55, of this part shall require at least eight concurring votes.

(b) Committee meetings may be assembled or held by telephone, video conference, or other means of communication. The committee may vote by telephone, facsimile, or other means of communication. Votes by members or alternates present at assembled meetings shall be cast in person. Votes by members or alternates participating by